

**Bay Management Steering Committee Meeting
State Planning Office
February 25, 2005**

In attendance:

Steering Committee Members: Paul Anderson, Kathleen Billings, Heather Deese, Dewitt John, Evan Richert, David Schmanska, Barbara Vickery

Staff Members: Mary Costigan, Deirdre Gilbert, Vanessa Levesque, Kathleen Leyden

Pilot Project Managers: Steve Perrin, Jen Atkinson

Other: Ron Huber, Elizabeth Stephenson

1) Steve Perrin – Presentation on Taunton Bay Project

Questions/Responses from Steering Committee:

- A) Keep the Steering Committee well-informed of the project's pitfalls and successes along the way, not just at its completion.
- B) Use the Steering Committee as a resource to help you and advise you on the project.

2) Jen Atkinson – Presentation on Muscongus Bay Project

Questions/Responses from Steering Committee

Keep records of who does and does not engage in the process. It would be useful to know whether there are patterns as to what type of user groups get involved.

3) Deirdre Gilbert – Maine's marine governance structure

- Questions on governance handed out at town meetings will be made more specific to avoid getting vague answers from attendees.
- Presented handout to steering committee - schematic of near-shore governance

Questions/Comments from Steering Committee:

- A) Are there any examples of inter-town cooperation on complex issues (besides shellfish ordinances)?
- B) Maine-specific examples of regional cooperation would be useful (such as watershed groups).
- C) The governance schematic is very helpful.
- D) Could the schematic be cross-tabulated by the categories of planning, regulation and development?
- E) Could you give an example of two activities and how they are covered by different agencies?

F) Regarding governance questions at town meetings: Multiple agency questions get at cooperation but do not get at overlap and gaps. Also, is there a question that could get at the scale/geography of the conflict and how it relates to the scale of the entity managing it?

G) Code enforcement officers deal with a lot of different governance issues and could link many of these things together.

4) **Kathleen Leyden – CZM/States/Municipalities**

- Refer to handout

Questions/Comments from Steering Committee:

A) Did you determine which layer of government deals with monitoring versus enforcement?

B) Discussion regarding ME municipalities using NRPA and site law to gain decision-making control over shoreland areas.

Pros – deals with localized control/local knowledge.

Cons – could lead to fragmentation along town lines

C) Sue Inches – new bill would require states to abide by municipal ordinances and site plans. The State is working on an alternative bill that would make these ordinances advisory, not binding.

5) **Evan Richert – Ocean zoning**

- Land Use Regulation Commission (LURC) ordinance - unlike previous zoning laws, LURC ordinance was based on natural resource features and for the purpose of resource management
- Zoning is more difficult in marine environment – marine waters are public property, 3-dimensional, and the boundaries are not visible for enforcement, etc.
- Examples in marine environment – Edgartown, MA – harbor planning/zoning; and Saco River Corridor Commission
- “Use Management” vs. “Resource Management”

6) **Heather Deese – Nearshore governance in Australia**

- Documents available, such as National Marine Atlas of Non-Fisheries Uses
- Characteristics important to implementation of ocean management plan in Australia:
 - A) Recognition by state and national government of conservation as a separate use
 - B) Environmental ethic – wanting to avoid depleting the oceans in the way that the land was depleted
 - C) Cooperation from industry – especially oil and gas, fishing industry was more reticent
 - D) The Great Barrier Reef draws attention from scientists who are politically connected. The scientific voice is strong there.
- Lessons learned from Australian experience
 - A) Some reluctance in government agencies to give up jurisdiction and also to cover certain gaps that no one wanted to deal with (marine mammals)
 - B) It is useful to define bioregions based on physical and biological characteristics.

- C) Maps are extremely helpful in terms of people seeing what is going on in each region.
- D) Determine ahead of time which data would be useful for an entire area/state so that you gather it only once.
- E) Be flexible; the marine environment is a frontier in terms of uses. It's difficult to plan for all contingencies.

7) Dewitt John – Northwest Straits

- Similar to Bay Management pilot projects in that core of the program in each county is an advisory committee
- This is unlike Bay Management pilot projects in that committee members are appointed by county commissioners and are politically connected.
- Important to maintaining public participation in the Northwest Straits project: People knew that the provided money would be spent; that if they came to the table, a deal would be cut. They wanted to state their opinion on how it should be spent.
- Performance benchmarks are set by Congress.
- Money for the program is “stolen” from National Marine Sanctuary Program.

8) Vanessa Levesque – British Colombia (handout)

- Approach most like Bay Management – “Multi-Opportunity Planning”
- One problem with this program is that the method by which the planners make recommendations seems to be unclear or a “black box” to people.

Questions/Comments from Steering Committee:

- A) How do they keep up participation?
- B) A map showing the planning units would be very helpful.

9) Vanessa Levesque – Report on Public Meetings

Questions/Comments from Steering Committee Members (in attendance at one of the public meetings):

- A) I don't think that people understand exactly what Bay Management is, but that's ok.
- B) I was surprised at the number of people who thought we would have the answers. When they found out we were looking for their input, I think they were pleasantly surprised.

10) Outcomes of Meeting

- Resolve to think about all of the different management models that were presented at this meeting and think about which model or which parts of a model might suit the purposes of this project.
- Request for notes from phone meetings
- Next meeting set for Thursday, April 21st, 2005, 10AM to 2PM, Location TBD